THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) There has been a reduction in infiltration across the border since the start of the peace process. Pakistan has, however, so far not taken any significant action to dismantle the infrastructure of support to terrorism.

Government is monitoring the situation very closely, and has made it clear to Pakistan that the premise on which the present dialogue process is based is the commitment of January 6, 2004 by Pakistan not to permit any territory under Pakistan's control to be used to support terrorism in any manner. In the Joint Statement made during the visit of President Musharraf on April 18, 2005, both countries reaffirmed, *inter alia*, the commitments made in the Joint Press Statement of January 6, 2004.

Road link between Kargil and Skardu

389. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to open road link between Kargil and Skardu in the Pakistan controlled areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the opening of roads between Kashmir and various places in Pakistan have not been found economically viable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) During President Musharraf's visit to India in April 2005, India proposed to Pakistan opening of a road link between Kargil and Skardu, and has reiterated this proposal subsequently. Pakistan's response is awaited.

Indian investment in Pakistan

390. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Pakistan has recently allowed private investment from India in various fields;

(b) if so, the details thereof, indicating the private investors allowed to invest and the activities in which these investments are proposed to be allowed; and

(c) whether Government of India have given a green signal to such investments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) No.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Talks on Sir Creek issue

391. DR. KARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether official level talks with Pakistan have started on May 28, 2005;

(b) if so, whether India claims that the middle point of Sir Creek should be demarcated as the international boundary;

(c) if so; whether Sir Creek which is extremely rich in marine life, has been contentious issue between the two countries;

(d) if so, what are the latest positions about this issue;

(e) whether any final agreement has been reached; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (f) Talks on the Sir Creek issue under the Composite Dialogue Framework were held in Rawalpindi on 28-29 May, 2005 to discuss the demarcation of International boundary between the two countries in the Sir Creek area. No final agreement was reached. The two sides, however, agreed to continue their discussions aimed at an early resolution of the issue for the mutual benefit of the two countries.

The Indian position on this issue is that the Centre of the navigable channel of the Sir Creek should be the boundary line in the Sir Creek Segment.